

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004542

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01J37/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H01J C23C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 542 559 A (ARAMI JUNICHI ET AL) 6 August 1996 (1996-08-06)	1-6, 8, 9, 11, 13-19, 21-23
Y	column 3, lines 27-50 column 5, line 66 - column 6, line 46; claims 1-6; figures 2-6, 9 column 7, line 65 - column 9, line 22	7, 10-12, 20
Y	US 3 520 110 A (KNAUER WOLFGANG) 14 July 1970 (1970-07-14) the whole document	7, 10-12, 20
A	EP 1 008 674 A (TOKYO ELECTRON LTD) 14 June 2000 (2000-06-14) paragraphs '0003!, '0007! - '0019! -/--	1-23

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hoyer, W

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004542

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0102, no. 36 (E-428), 15 August 1986 (1986-08-15) & JP 61 067922 A (FUJITSU LTD), 8 April 1986 (1986-04-08) abstract</p> <p>-----</p>	1-23

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004542

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5542559	A	06-08-1996	JP	3040630 B2	15-05-2000
			JP	6244144 A	02-09-1994
			JP	3050716 B2	12-06-2000
			JP	6244119 A	02-09-1994
			KR	247532 B1	01-05-2000
US 3520110	A	14-07-1970	CH	489876 A	30-04-1970
			DE	1539263 A1	02-04-1970
			FR	1545117 A	08-11-1968
			GB	1199184 A	15-07-1970
			SE	339253 B	04-10-1971
EP 1008674	A	14-06-2000	EP	1008674 A1	14-06-2000
			US	6334983 B1	01-01-2002
			WO	9846808 A1	22-10-1998
JP 61067922	A	08-04-1986	JP	1815155 C	18-01-1994
			JP	5020898 B	22-03-1993